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ing flimsy, the typography bad, the cuts miserable.

The reviewer is not suffering from either indigestion or disordered liver, and on taking second thought is convinced that the above estimate is not undeservedly harsh.

JOSEPH W. RICHARDS.

Histoire de l'habillement et de la parure. By L. BOURDEAU. 1 vol. 8vo. Bibliothèque scientifique internationale. Paris, Felix Alcan. Pp. 300. 6 francs.

This volume completes a series of culture-historical studies by the author: The forces of industry, the history of alimentation, the conquest of the animal kingdom, the conquest of the vegetal kingdom, and history of dress and adornment. Three motives are urged as having given rise to vestment—protection from injury caused by the things that are without, the love of pleasure and modesty. The male sex and the female have vied with each other in the elaboration of innumerable inventions in this category. Animals have clothing provided by nature—carapaces, shells, hair, bristles, feathers, down, wool and more. Man's skin, on the contrary, is a tissue of sensation structures, putting him into lively contact and communication with the outside world, but shielding him little.

The unfolding of this story is divided into two parts: (1) the materials—skins and textile substances and their preparations, and (2) the history of costume. The substances fit for clothing are not innumerable. They had to be bad conductors of heat from the body and to the body; they had to be pliable, fitting themselves to the form, tough enough to wear and last and pay for the time spent in manufacturing them. The story begins with skins and passes on through animal textiles, vegetal textiles and other substances, from which must not be omitted the great variety of things ornamental. Add to all this the fashions in tissues, the dyeing, staining, painting, bleaching, printing of patterns on goods, cutting out, sewing and trimming, and it will appear what a large fraction of human hours are given to raiment. The making of

buttons requires the services of 30,000 workmen and an outlay of 30,000,000 francs (1900).

The development of costume fills the last one hundred pages, its general evolution, the special history of modern costume, head dresses, foot gear and gloves, accessories of costume, such as handkerchiefs, fans, parasols, umbrellas and jewelry. There is a chapter (pp. 124–147) on artificial coloring of the hair and skin, tattooing, painting and dyeing. And the goodly friend of the species, soap, together with perfumeries, baths, etc., is not neglected. It is a great pity that there is no index to the work, for there is an infinite amount of petty detail gathered here, to which one would like to refer. The author assumes the existence of naked and unadorned peoples. When you go to look for them, they are seldom to be found, which leads to the inquiry whether really there are any such. O. T. M.

SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS AND ARTICLES.

The Journal of the American Chemical Society for November contains the following articles:

ROY D. HALL and EDGAR E. SMITH: 'Some Observations on Columbium.'

JOSEPH H. GOODWIN: 'Electrolytic Calcium.'

GEO. A. HULETT: 'Preparation of Nitrogen from the Atmosphere.'

H. M. GORDIN: 'On the Crystalline Alkaloid of *Calycanthus Glauceus*.'

WILLIAM A. NOYES and HOWARD W. DOUGHTY: 'Derivatives of Trimethylparaconic and of Camphoronic Acids.'

EDWARD GUDEMAN: 'Artificial Digestion Experiments.'

A. T. LINCOLN: 'A New Burette Holder.'

Review of American Chemical Research.

The Museum News, of the Brooklyn Institute, for November may be termed a zoological number, as it is principally devoted to notes pertaining to that branch of science. There is a little leader in the matter of labels, which explains why labels are frequently absent, and also gives the point of view of the curator. The completion of a group of fur seals is announced which has been in preparation for some time, and is the finest of its kind in any museum, comprising as it does thirteen speci-